

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

0301572604  
CE - 407

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Beiswanger Bakery

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

George Street, east side, 3rd. house south of Second Street

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake City

— VICINITY OF

First

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Cecil

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

— DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

— STRUCTURE

— SITE

— OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

— PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

— BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

— IN PROCESS

— BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED

— UNOCCUPIED

— WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

— YES RESTRICTED

— YES UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

**PRESENT USE**

— AGRICULTURE

— COMMERCIAL

— EDUCATIONAL

— ENTERTAINMENT

— GOVERNMENT

— INDUSTRIAL

— MILITARY

— MUSEUM

— PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

— RELIGIOUS

— SCIENTIFIC

— TRANSPORTATION

— OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Katherine S. Baker

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake City

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21915

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, Cecil County Courthouse  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: WAS No. 266

Folio #: 90

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland 21921

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CE-457

**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☒ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

On a very small lot stands an interesting former commercial frame structure. Its gable faces the street and has, on the first story, a central door and two flanking projecting store windows. The trim is very plain and typical of the twentieth century. The number and arrangement of the panes is unusual, the center panes being larger than those flanking them.

On the second story are two windows with 6/6 pane windows. The wall of the facade is covered with tan ersatz brick while the sides are covered with pressed tin siding in imitation of rough brick. The building is very long and has a shed addition on the rear..

Since the structure is relatively plain, the best treatment of the facade would be to retain the store windows and entrance as well as the windows above. Shutters would help the second story windows as well as painted weatherboard.

It is very close to its neighbors and a portion of the north wall is visible from the street where it rises above the neighboring porch.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

| PERIOD                                    |  | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW       |   |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC      | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499        | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION                  | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599        | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS                     | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION                     | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799        | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING                   | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE     | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT        | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY                      | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION                     |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building is interesting in that commercial structures were built within a row of residences prior to the introduction of zoning. Its form and usage are also of interest to the town.

Absalom Cropper, son of Kendall Cropper one of the twon founders is the first owner of record. Because of its location, the property was ideal for a small business and has sheltered a printer's shop, an undertakers' parlor, a harness shop, a blacksmith shop on the back alley and a candy store. The building is now in use as a dwelling.

The printer turned out advertisements and notices and a local newspaper, "Chesapeake Ches-Pike". News of boat arrivals and sailings was important in this area because the waterway provided the main link with Baltimore and Philadelphia, and the world beyond.

Around the turn of the century, a harness shop was located on the second floor.

When the Canal was changed and the old causeway was destroyed, Beiswanger's Bakery moved to this building. Their shop near the causeway had been popular for many years and they continued to do a good business from this shop. They lived in the house south of this lot.

This has been an important commercial property in town.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne &amp; Katherine Wein

May 10, 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

South Chesapeake City Historic District Commission

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o Town Council of Chesapeake City

(301) 885-5298

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Chesapeake City

Maryland 21915

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



# HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION — PART 1

(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Instructions: Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received (P.L. 94-455). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or a separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

## PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: Beiswanger Bakery CE 457  
Address of property, Street 216 George Street  
City Chesapeake City County Cecil State Maryland Zip Code 21915  
Name of historic district in which property is located South Chesapeake City Historic District

### 2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:

(see instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary)

See attached Maryland Historic Trust Inventory Form for description.  
Historic District map attached.  
Pictures attached.

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: This commercial building, built about 1890 as an undertaker's establishment on the ground floor and with a harness shop on the second floor, is an integral part of the 1800's buildings on both sides of George Street. The 20½ front foot lot was in common with the 75' by 70' lot containing the Howard Duplex which was bought in 1896 by John Banks and J. Polk Steele. It was then sold to Coleman, the undertaker.  
Date of construction (if known) about 1890. ☒ Original site ☐ Moved Date of alterations (if known): not known

### 4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

Name KANSAS Enterprises. Edward L. Cairns, President.  
Street 104 Jackson Hall Road  
City Elkton, Md. 21921 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number (during day): Area Code 301/398-3273

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and that I am a partner of the property described above

Signature H.H. Ward, 3rd Date July 29, 1982

### For office use only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and ☒ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the character of the district.

The structure ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).

The structure is located in a district which ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6). ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60). and ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to contribute to the character of said district

Signature [Signature] Date 8-25-82  
State Historic Preservation Officer

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and, it subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954

☐ is hereby certified a historic structure

☐ does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of the National Register

CE-457

Unfortunately this building was set ablaze recently by an arsonist. The front of the building and some of the interior structure and exterior walls were saved. A group of citizens dedicated to the restoration of the South Chesapeake City Historic District structures, known as KANSAS Enterprises, a partnership, have acquired the building, engaged an architect, and have prepared plans to restore the building in accordance with "Standards for Rehabilitation" set forth in 36 CFR Part 67.7 in as far as possible with the ground floor being made into a shop and the second floor being made into living quarters.

154-37





Beiswanger Bakery CE-457

West facade

M. Bourne April 1976.